

Message Text

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67

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

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FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 706

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LUANDA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LOURENCO MARQUES

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LISBON

UNCLAS BRUSSELS 2775

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PO

SUBJECT: VISIT OF PORTUGUESE SOCIALIST LEADER TO BELGIUM

1. PORTUGUESE SOCIALIST LEADER MARIO SOARES VISITED BRUSSELS
MAY 2-3 AS PART OF TOUR OF SEVERAL EUROPEAN CAPITALS. AFTER
MEETING WITH FOREIGN MINISTER VAN ELSLANDE, SOARES HELD BRIEF
PRESS CONFERENCE AT WHICH HE MADE FOLLOWING POINTS:

-- PORTUGUESE SOCIALISTS HAVE CONFIDENCE IN NEW JUNTA
AND SUPPORT GENERAL SPINOLA.

-- IMMEDIATE PROBLEMS ARE TO BRING ABOUT DECOLONIZATION
OF PORTUGUESE AFRICAN TERRITORIES. TO DO THIS GOP MUST NEGOTIATE
WITHOUT DELAY WITH LEADERS OF AFRICAN NATIONALIST PARTIES.

-- PORTUGAL MUST NOT BE ALLOWED TO FALL INTO ECONOMIC
CHAOS.

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-- GOVERNMENT OF PUBLIC AND NATIONAL SALVATION SHOULD BE

CONSTITUTED WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF ALL POLITICAL GROUPS:
LIBERALS, CENTRISTS CONSERVATIVES, SOCIALISTS AND COMMUNISTS.

-- SOARES HAS CONFIDENCE IN PORTUGUESE ARMY AND BELIEVES
IN THEIR LOYALTY.

-- CONFIDENCE CAN BE PLACED IN PORTUGUESE COMMUNISTS, WHO
WILL NOT OVERWHELM OTHER PORTUGUESE POLITICAL GROUPS.

-- PORTUGUESE INTELLECTUALS IN EXILE SHOULD RETURN TO
PORTUGAL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

-- UN SHOULD BE SUPPORTED. AS LONG AS WARSAW PACT EXISTS,
PORTUGAL SHOULD REMAIN MEMBER OF NATO.

-- PORTUGAL WISHES TO JOIN EUROPEAN COMMUNITY.

2. SOARES THEN PROCEEDED TO MEETING WITH COMMISSIONERS SPINELLI
AND SIMONET OF EC.

3. FOREIGN MINISTER VAN ELSLANDE ALSO RECEIVED AGOSTINHO
NETO, PRESIDENT OF POPULAR MOVEMENT FOR LIBERATION OF ANGOLA
(MPLE), ON MAY 2. ACCORDING TO PRESS VAN ELSLANDE TOLD NETO
THAT BELGIUM RECOGNIZES RIGHT OF AFRICAN PEOPLES UNDER
PORTUGUESE RULE TO SELF-DETERMINATION AND INDEPENDENCE AND
EXPRESSED HOPE THAT PEACEFUL AND NEGOTIATED SOLUTION COULD
BE FOUND IN ANGOLA.
STRAUSZ-HUPE

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